



MURDER OUT.

The Pitiable Condition of Miners
Admitted by their Fakirs.

CONSISTENT LYING IMPOS-
SIBLE.

The Miners' Strike Compels the Labor Fakirs Among the Miners to Publish the Facts that Prove that all the Claims Hitherto Made About the Great Things Done by the "Pure and Simple" Unions are False—New Trade Unionism's Imperative Mission—The Hope of the Workers Lies in the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A.

Murder will out. The crew of criminals, who, in the capacity of "labor leaders," labor fakirs in fact, have for so many years carried on an inhuman traffic in the bone and flesh, and even in the lives of the unhappy workingmen, regularly stand exposed and their crimes uncovered every time that, driven by want, their rank and file break out into a strike. In order to live quite well without work, some times to live very well without work, the labor misleaders need funds; the funds proceed from two sources: from dues and from political corruption. The regular and running source is the former. To rake in dues, there must be members; to rake in members there must be told big lies about what the pure and simple organizations have done for the toilers. These lies have acted as bird-lime; untold numbers of toilers fell into the toils of the labor fakirs. This process of wheedling the toilers into the unions so as to be able to pluck them of dues has been virtually murder: it strengthened the fleeing powers of the bosses by leading the men on false scents for the improvement of their condition, it thereby kept them in privation, tapped their life-springs, shortened their lives, and, in many cases caused directly their lives. The conduct of the labor fakirs is nothing short of murder. But murder

The present miners' strike brings out facts that give the lie direct to all the "pure and simple" claims made by the labor fakir leaders among the miners as to the good things the union has done for the men; and what gives the facts greater force is that they are furnished by these rascally labor leaders themselves, now that they are anxious to get support for their victims. Here, for instance, is what "President" (mark well the big titles of all these fakirs) M. D. Hatchford, of the United Mine Workers, says:

"That wages have been reduced below the living point no one will deny who is at all familiar with the conditions surrounding the lives and earnings of the mine workers. The following comparison of prices paid in 1893 with those paid at present tells the story. The great mining district of Western Pennsylvania paid for mining in 1893, thin vein, 79 cents, and thick vein, 65 cents per ton. The rate paid at present is, thin vein, 47 to 54 cents per ton; thick vein, 28 to 30 cents per ton.

"During the same year the prices in Ohio and Indiana was 70 cents and 75 cents per ton respectively. At present it is 51 cents per ton, or less, in both States, with a reduction offered or at least contemplated in Ohio to 45 cents per ton, in consequence of the low prices in Western Pennsylvania.

"This ratio of fallen wages holds good all along the line, affecting every mining State almost equally alike.

"In the great Hocking Valley district of Ohio the average wages per miner in one of the largest mines during a period of eight months, from October 1, 1896, to June 1, 1897, was \$60 per man, or \$7.50 per man per month gross earnings; from this amount the cost of mine supplies are deducted, leaving the remainder with which to pay house rent, coal, etc., and support his family.

"At another mine in the same district the gross earnings of 39 miners is shown by the written statements of the company to aggregate \$233.98 for two weeks' labor, or an average of \$2.37 per man per week. For the same period the deductions for company store, powder and rent, including some back rental, aggregate \$619.29. The deductions for store alone, which bespeaks the total cost of supporting 39 families for two weeks, amounts to \$178.05, or an average of \$2.28 per family per week.

"Further illustrations indicative of the poverty and extreme suffering of the miners and equally as heartrending can be found everywhere. Ohio furnishes a fair example of the general condition of mining. I quote from the report of R. M. Haseltine, chief inspector of mines in Ohio, for 1895, when the mining rate was 55 cents per ton: 'Wherefore at 55 cents per ton the daily wages will be found to be \$1.32, or a total of \$221.75 for the year's work, which will give to each miner an average of \$18.48 per month.' This, it will be remembered, is exclusive of all deductions, and that the mining rate was 4 cents per ton higher than the present price. The amount of increase in wages demanded and for which we are now contending is but 9 cents per ton over our former scale, together with

a readjustment of machine mining, which will place it upon an equal basis with pick mining, giving to each their just proportion."

The murder is out. These unhappy miners could not possibly have been worse off without their "pure and simple" union. Had they been organized all these years in labor unions such as the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, they would have been in every respect better off; they would have had a strong political party of the proletariat back of them whose growth would certainly have curbed the inroads of their bosses, and untold millions expended by them and used up by their fakir leaders in the shape of dues would have been spared to them, and that which they would have expended would have been expended in the work of education, to help enlighten their fellow wage slaves in all the other industries, draw them together into a solid class-conscious and intelligent movement for their emancipation, and drill them for the final struggle to overthrow their oppressors by the overthrow of their oppressors' social system of Capital. Now they are sans money, sans organization, sans protection from a political party of labor, sans information—a pitiful prey to the vampire capitalist.

But all is not lost; though the lesson is dearly paid for, it is telling. The organization of a Miners' Local Alliance, seventy odd strong, in the midst of these striking times in Buena Vista, Pa., together with the organization of other alliances of the trade in the same state during the last months are encouraging signs. Bleeding at every limb from the scourges inflicted by the capitalist and from the bites of the labor fakirs, the American proletariat will yet be emancipated from the thrall of wage-slavery, fired to the deed by the breath of the Socialist Labor party and the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE PLANK

Of the Platform of the Socialist Labor Party.

1.—WHEREAS, The privilege of performing certain public services and functions, involving the use of public property and the exercise of the public right to levy taxes (in the various forms of dues, fares, rentals, etc.), upon the persons to whom such necessary services are rendered, has been unduly and corruptly granted to private corporations, who have used and abused the said privilege for their own unlimited enrichment, watered their stocks in order to conceal their scandalous profits, bribed aldermen, legislators, judges and executive officials, violated their charters and contracts, evaded taxation, starved their employees, provoked bloody conflicts between authority and hunger, assumed police powers, sacrificed human life to their greed and generally "damned the people";

RESOLVED, That every official elected by the Socialist Labor party shall, within the sphere of his functions, diligently work for the absolute and unconditional recovery, by the cities, of the municipal franchises, privileges, rights and property that have already been alienated to private corporations, and against any further such grant or alienation under any circumstances or upon any conditions whatsoever; to the end that all such franchises be operated by the cities.

2.—WHEREAS, It has heretofore been the practice of municipal bodies to carry on their affairs on the so-called "business principles" of capitalism, namely, high salaries, fees or perquisites for the idle bosses, and starvation wages for the industrious employees; so that the worker in the public service is, like the worker in private employment, robbed of three-quarters of the value produced by his manual or intellectual exertions;

RESOLVED, That Socialist officials shall vigorously urge the application of the fundamental principles of the Co-operative Commonwealth to all municipal services, as far as possible under present conditions. They shall, in particular, insist upon the following demands: 1.—The election, by the employees, of their respective foremen, superintendents and other officers not elected by a general vote of the people; 2.—A minimum salary, supplemented by an equal distribution, among the employees, of a portion of the surplus value (or profit), which, produced by their joint labor, is now appropriated by the directors and stockholders of corporations; 3.—Another portion of the said surplus shall be set aside as a pension fund for the aged and a relief fund for the sick employees of the municipality; 4.—The remaining portion shall be applied to the maintenance and extension of the said public services, the price of which shall be reduced to the people to the extent of the saving permanently effected by mechanical and other improvements.

On September 12th the Mayor of Somerville is to speak in that town on the "Labor Question." A Socialist is to answer him.

Comrade D. De Leon
Speaks Friday, July 30, at Pleasure Hall, 62 Pitt street, at 8 p. m. Subject: "Municipal Programme of the S. L. P."

IN THE LISTS.

First Socialists Labor Party Ticket on
Kentuckian Soil.

Although it is Only a Municipal Ticket in Louisville, its Programme Emphatically Places the National Issue of the Abolition of Wage Slavery in the Foreground—Local Demands in Strict Keeping With the Interests of the Working Class.

MANIFESTO TO THE CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE.

For the first time in the history of Louisville the Socialist Labor party enters the municipal campaign.

Throughout the civilized world the Socialist Labor party is battling against one and the same enemy—CAPITALISM; and consequently its warfare is of an entirely different nature from that of the capitalist parties.

While the capitalist parties, without exception, are constantly striving to STRENGTHEN their power over the people, the Socialist Labor party seeks to ABOLISH all such power, and in its stead to establish a Social democracy.

In other words, the people shall govern themselves, obtain ABSOLUTE control over ALL governmental and legislative bodies, and shall transform the means of production and distribution from individual into public ownership.

Only in this manner is it possible that the working class can free itself from the present degrading conditions of wage-slavery, and therefore the Socialist Labor party demands the abolishment of the present capitalist competitive system, and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

But although we are aware of the fact that it is impossible to permanently better the conditions of the laboring class under the present robber system, nevertheless as a protest against our present corrupt city government, we make the following demands, which shall constitute our local

MUNICIPAL PROGRAMME.

1st.—We demand that the city of Louisville shall transform ALL local electric light and power plants, gas works, water works, street railway lines, bridges, etc., also all other industries, requiring municipal franchises, from private ownership into municipal ownership, and that all the herein mentioned public necessities be furnished to the people of Louisville at cost price.

Further, that all the above mentioned plants or industries be operated CO-OPERATIVELY by the employees, said employees to be under municipal control, but no employee to be discharged for religious or political reasons.

2d.—We demand that the city of Louisville establish public asylums for the aged sick and homeless of both sexes, but that all such asylums be situated in healthy districts, and furnished with all modern conveniences.

3d.—We demand that a system be established under which it will be possible to control the conditions of health in workshop and factory, and also the purity and quality of all articles of food and drink.

4th.—We demand that the city furnish all such school children with food and clothing, whose parents are unable to personally attend to the same.

5th.—We demand that all city work be given direct to workingmen, without the intervention of contractors or middlemen; that such workingmen be paid by the city DIRECT IN UNITED STATES MONEY, that eight (8) hours constitute a legal workday, and that the lowest wages paid for such 8 hour day be two (\$2) dollars.

6th.—We demand further that the unemployed of the city be furnished with permanent work in repairing and bulding streets and other utilities, mentioned elsewhere in this programme.

7th.—We demand that the women be given full and equal suffrage in all school elections, and that they be made eligible to the school board.

In order to submit the foregoing demands, together with our national platform, to the people of Louisville, we have nominated the following citizens to represent our principles in the present municipal campaign:

For Mayor:
AUGUST SCHNEIDER.

For Alderman:
ALBERT SCHMUTZ.

CHRIST LANDOLT.

CHAS. LEYLE.

FRED RIST.

FRANK GIFFEY.

JAMES D. MANNING.

For Councilman:
R. P. CALDWELL, 1st Ward.

AUG. SPAETH, 3d Ward.

FRITZ ZIMMERMANN, 6th Ward.

LOUIS FLEISCHER, 11th Ward.

WM. A. WOLFF, 12th Ward.

That is a pretty echo that is preparing for the Diamond Jubilee in the shape of an uprising in India. At every turn, whether on a private or public stage, whether on a small or a large scale, the truth is run up against a lie, be it ever so clever, is like a false cheque drawn against a bank which returns eventually, if not sooner, with the mark: "No effects."

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

BICYCLE REVELATIONS

Of Mental and Economic Conditions
in Rural Districts.

Two Comrades from Albany, N. Y., Start on their Wheels Across Lots on a Tour of Exploration—Cross Ignorance Found to Prevail Amid Hard Toil and Painful Privation—Crops of Children and Mortgages—High Tariff and Anti-Immigration Idols.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 26.—On the 24th instant Comrade Boland, of Troy, and myself mounted our bicycles and started on a tour through the neighboring country for the purpose of making some observations on the condition of the toilers on the farms and in the small towns away from the cities.

The first stop was made at Boyntonville, an agricultural hamlet of perhaps twenty dwellings. Here we found the farmers busy harvesting. When questioned about prospects the answer of one and all was that, in the endeavor to keep their heads above water, the struggle was becoming harder and harder, with greater disadvantages to contend at every recurring season. Comrade Boland asked a sturdy yeoman "What do you raise chiefly around here?" The witty answer told the story of the entire community: "Well, by gosh, I've had better luck raisin' children than anything else so far, but I guess before long I'll have to raise a mortgage."

They knew nothing of Socialism, and had never seen a Socialist before that they knew of, but were of the opinion that something would have to be done if they would be compelled to give up the struggle.

The next stop was at Hoosick Falls, a town formerly of about 8,000 inhabitants, and the site of the W. A. Wood Mower and Reaper Co.'s plant. This concern was formerly the only industry in the place, and the main support of the inhabitants, employing nearly 2,000 hands. Many of these employees had invested their earnings in homes for themselves and families. Three years ago the concern went into the hands of a receiver, and the works stopped; the result was the same old story: the cottages and savings of a life-time were swept away; what was once a happy community was turned into an abode of misery, and the greater part of the workers were compelled to start out penniless to do battle with the world among strangers, or else remain and subsist on charity. Last year the works were started again, with about one-fourth the number of employees and greatly reduced wages. Several other small concerns, employing mostly women and children at starvation wages, located there for the purpose of taking advantage of the situation, like carrion crows, to pick the bones of the helpless proletariat. No Socialist agitation was ever held in the place, hence the people's knowledge of Socialism is limited. When the subject was broached to one venerable wage earner, sixty years of age, he "reckoned" that the country would be good enough as it is if they would only stop lettin' in them confounded furniners." He also boasted that no one need starve in that town, for they had spent \$68,000 the "previous year to take care of the poor. However, quite a number listened to our propositions, and a few questions were asked and answered satisfactorily. We came to the conclusion that this would be a good field to work in. No doubt arrangements will be made in the near future for a meeting, with good prospects of organizing a Section.

At North Hoosick and Wallomac things were just as bad. Inability to find employment was driving many of the people away. The Lord only knows where. We visited the historic ground on the Wallomac River where the battle of Bennington was fought. Strange to relate, upon the "sacred" soil where "Molly" Stark walloped the red coats there are now a number of shanties, the dwellings for the present farm "help"; these shanties are not fit to put a respectable donkey in!

Take notice ye "Sons" and "Daughters" of the Revolution! Call the world to witness how you have revolutionized the glorious inheritance that the ancestors you boast about left to these humble sons of toil!

On we went, across the line into Vermont and to the village of Bennington. Here some of the mills and factories were running with a few hands, or on short time, and some not at all. The unemployed were numerous enough, though scarcely one we met had any conception of the cause of his condition. When it was suggested to one that he ought to become a Socialist he replied that they had no "lodge" in the town, thinking the Socialists were an order of some kind. The farmers in the surrounding country were in the same plight as those we left behind in New York State. A farm without a mortgage is the exception, not the rule. One farmer was found about two miles from the village, who, in addition to his agricultural pursuits, had an ice route in the town, and also kept a grocery store. With fifteen hours of labor every day, in the three different branches of business, he managed to make a scanty living, no more. He knew that times were hard, but was of the opinion that business would be better if people would only work more; most of them were too "durn" lazy. A consignment of sugar came into the store during our visit; ditto butter for the same. The new tariff bill had passed. The price had risen. His competitor had laid in a stock in advance. Result—loss to our merchant. Needless to state there was wailing and gnashing of teeth. The incident, coupled with our conversation, resulted in shattering this man's faith in his life-long idol—high tariff. An approaching thunder cloud caused us to hasten away without having ascertained

whether his reasoning would now lead him. Not a single labor organization was found during the whole trip, either "pure and simple" or progressive.

One fact throughout this hide-bound Republican community stood out in bold relief. It was the sentiment of all that the present administration must do something to lighten the burdens of the people or Republicanism was at an end. These people are, indeed, being pushed by necessity, and are ready to move as soon as the right course shall have been pointed out to them. The difficulties of reaching them are great, however, and I am more convinced than ever that the brunt of the battles will have to be borne by the proletariat of the larger industrial centres. With the workingmen solidly organized in cities, politically as well as industrially, we can then look to the country. That our energies should for the present be mainly directed in the city districts is the opinion of J. E. ALEXANDER.

LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Class-Consciousness the Touchstone of
Right Principles.

And a great light shone forth to guide the people up out of bondage. And many saw, and some followed. But others, whose vision was weakened and blurred by the false lights of capitalism, could not see aright, and some said, it is green, and others said "Lo, it is white;" and some said it is hither, and others thither; but those who had seen it first said, "Nay, it is straight ahead, and the color is red, like the blood of all mankind."

And as many as came and stood upon the platform of Class-consciousness saw that it was indeed so, and they forsook the false lights and followed them no more.

There is probably no one detail so essential to Socialist propaganda as the inculcation of class-consciousness. The necessary elements for a successful campaign against the existing regime are present in abundance. The process of evolution which has resulted in the capitalist system and its ultimate perfection and decay has at the same time produced the elements of dissatisfaction, which, together with the natural attributes, intelligence and ambition, rest in solution in the social body as salt is in solution in sea water.

Bungling alchemists have stirred and riled in vain attempts to produce an ideal while ignoring the material. Many a visionary has left his bones to bleach in Tennessee or Washington in a futile search for the fountain of youth. Political quacks and economic fakirs have gone and will go about calling upon the multitude to rise up and follow them.

How, then, shall we guard against being ourselves misled, and how warn the proletariat that they may see clearly and in turn teach others? Plainly enough the touchstone which will precipitate the disunited elements into a substance of social harmony is the consciousness of class interests, and that alone is a safe test to apply to any and all propositions advanced to wage-workers.

Thus, a proposition to so change the "legal tender" law as to enable debtors to more easily discharge their obligations will not bear the test, as the benefits to be derived fall not to the wage-workers as wage workers, but to a portion of the capitalist class which, however miserable it may be, still bars the way to industrial emancipation by its frantic efforts to retain that which is crushing it in common with the wage-earning class.

So with colonization schemes. They aim to benefit, not the class, but a group who may be fortunate enough to possess some little capital with which they fancy themselves able to compete with far greater combinations of capital. Again it is seen that a colony is organized for competition, thus precluding the possibility of its being Socialism. Colonies must compete in the open market, thus reducing their own income to the line of subsistence and at the same time forcing down the wages of all the workers.

Surely this is not for the benefit of the working class; not even for those in the colony.

To many the idea of a class struggle is repugnant. But it is certain that competition and private ownership of capital are productive of classes. It is sure that classes cannot exist without opposing interests, and that opposing interests necessitate a struggle for supremacy. Logically, then, supremacy must eventually be attained by one class or the other. Manifestly it cannot be by the idle capitalist class, as production must necessarily continue. The only possible solution then lies in the complete triumph of the producing class sharing in common the ownership of capital (as distinct from personal property).

A. W. B.

Worcester, Mass.

The tariff bill, now called the Dingley bill, has become law. Thereupon all the white Indians in the country shake hands and sit down to receive "Prosperity." Again we ask, Where is prosperity to come from? How can the merchant make money if the masses haven't any? And how can the masses get any if machinery and concentrated capitalism displaces more and more men.

But this is not an argument that our Indians can understand. With their eyes on the new tariff bill as upon a gambler's hoodoo they sit and wait, wait and sit—until the working class, tired of being ruled by such a crew of imbeciles as is our capitalist class, rears and throws the whole pack overboard.

NO SOLUTION.

The Law of Evolution Demands
Peremptorily Freedom or Death

CAPITALISM LEAVES NO
ALTERNATIVE.

A "Gentleman's" Latest Display of the Ignorance of the Capitalists and of their Thorn-Neck Bungling Cruelty—The Reduction of the Workers to the State of Pariahs Wholly Inapplicable, Even if Civilization Were not to Stand in the Way—Socialism Can't be Dodged—Either it and Freedom, or Society Expires.

"A Gentleman" writes to a New York capitalist paper giving his solution of the labor problem. The occasion of his letter is the miners' strike. Here is his proposition:

"Let the miner agree (1) to work without wages; (2) to leave his union; (3) to retire from politics, and not vote at any election unless requested to do so by his employer; (4) to forfeit all legal claims upon his employer should he (the miner) ever repudiate his contract and go on strike.

"Then let his employer agree (1) to furnish the miner with food, clothing and shelter; (2) to furnish the same necessities to the miner's wife and children, up to a given number of the latter, say three; (4) to supply medical attendance in case of sickness; (5) to provide subsistence for the miner in his old age."

We shall not approach the question from bottom up and show that each and all the premises from which our "Gentleman" proceeds are false, that his interpretation of civilization is ridiculous, that his conception of historic evolution is absurd, or that his law is slysterish. We shall, for the sake of argument, let all that go by, and simply test his solution.

Suppose that the miner, or workingman generally, is willing to abdicate his manhood and resign his citizenship, and that the boss be ready to accept him as his slave, how many of them will the mining boss agree to clothe, shelter, cure in case of sickness, etc.? Surely, only those he needs at the time of the contract. These may forthwith enjoy the slave or cattle safety of the arrangement. But what of all the miners whom the boss does not need? All expert testimony agrees that there are twice as many miners now in the mining labor market as are needed. Let other bosses in other industries take them up as slaves? This would not do because the same conditions prevail elsewhere: in every line of industry there are many more applicants for work than there are jobs. Evidently this surplusage will have to be removed. How? The only way possible is to massacre these men, turn them into Boulogna sausage as the street car companies are doing with the horses whom the trolley or the cable has displaced. But cruel as this solution would be it is inadequate. Why?

If one massacre would be the be-all and end-all, the solution might be seriously contemplated by our "Gentleman" class. But it won't. That massacre would not, could not be the last. It would have to be the first of a long series of similar "gentlemanly" acts. Again, why?

The surplusage of miners and other workers is not the result of an excessive number of births; if it were, the surplusage could be checked and eventually removed; the "Gentlemanly" plan of infanticide and other kindred practices to keep the number of children down to three would meet the requirements of the solution; but this surplusage is not the child of mothers. Whence does it proceed? It proceeds from the development of machinery and the concentration of capital. Every improvement in machinery and every new machine displaces hands, and thereby breeds the "surplusage;" furthermore, every act of concentration wipes out old establishments, and thereby throws out more men. The tendency, the law of civilization, is to render wealth more and more plentiful, and thereby to render work less and less needed. This law cannot be checked. It follows that the "surplusage" are bound to be bred right along. Consequently, the plan of massacring the "surplusage" that there may be at the time of initiating the "Gentleman's" solution would be tantamount to initiating a series of periodical massacres—one massacre every time that newer machinery and later concentrations had produced a new sediment of "surplusage" or unemployed.

It is evident that this solution is no solution. A solution that periodically reopens the question and demands anew to be removed is a bungler's work. The premises from which our "Gentleman" starts could not but lead to such a crazy plan as he proposes. It is interesting, however, for two reasons: First—it shows that it has finally leaked through the wool of our "Gentlemen" that things can not go on as they are; that this social system of theirs is, after all, no "exto perpetua" institution, as they have loved to imagine.

Second—That our "Gentlemen" will adopt any scamp's plan to get out of the trouble and escape the logic of events, to wit, that the land on and the machinery with which to work shall belong to the industrious workers and not to the loafing "gentlemen."

THE PEOPLE.

Published at 154 William Street, New York.

—EVERY SUNDAY—

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS

Invariably in advance:

One year.....	\$1.00
Six months.....	.50
Three months.....	.30
Subscription Trial, one month.....	.10

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office, on April 6th, 1891.



SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....	2,088
In 1892 (Presidential).....	13,351
In 1896 (Presidential).....	31,157
In 1898 (Presidential).....	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential).....	36,564

The economic subjection of the man of labor to the monopolizer of the means of life—that is, the sources of life—lies at the bottom of servitude in all its forms of social misery, mental degradation, and political dependence.

Marx.

In the absence of a daily paper in the English language, the municipal campaign in this great city must depend greatly, if not mainly, upon the plentifulness with which the General Campaign Committee and the special campaign organizations will furnish literature, and upon the diligence with which the comrades will spread such literature at the meetings, on the streets and in the houses of the city's proletariat.

The party's thorough discipline, brooking no paltering; its uncompromising attitude; its clear cut principles; its unquestioned rectitude—all this has intensified the rays of the light it has been shedding all around, has recommended it to the confidence, the esteem and the admiration of increasing numbers. The capitalist class is doing its work to perfection by plowing the field for the seed of Socialism. Agitation by word of mouth must not be over-estimated; printed agitation is the pre-eminent means for the spread of light. Let that not be wanting, nor the men to distribute it, and this November's harvest will be plentiful.

BORROWED FEATHERS.

Mr. G. C. Clemens, a Kansas "Reformer" and reporter for the Supreme Court of Kansas—a job for which he fished as a reward for his support of the Presidential candidate of the silver mine magnates, who fleece and shoot their workers—imagines that he overthrows the Socialist principle of the class struggle with the following declaration that appears in the Chicago "Record," and is reproduced in other Western papers:

"When, beginning with Tolstoi, William Morris, Wendell Phillips and others like them, I run back through history to Galus and Tiberius, Gracchus and to Christ, himself heir to a once splendid throne, and see in every land, in every age, the sons of wealth and men of proud, patrician birth championing the cause of the poor and the oppressed, I grow indignant at the constant assumption that Socialism's only hope is the helpless poor."

What this passage does do is to bring into strong relief the fact that the men, whose political tactics require them to deny the class struggle, are so conscious of the impropriety of their own position that, in order to cover it up, they are driven to deck themselves in borrowed feathers. Take each of the names referred to in the above quotation, compare the conduct of the men who bore them with the conduct of the men who quote them, and the Socialist position stands proven, while its adversaries stand convicted. The operation, it will be found in each case, is a repetition of the scene in the fable where the Jackdaw is stripped of the beautiful feathers of other birds that it had stolen and was strutting about with.

Can any one imagine Tolstoi fishing for a political job, say as reporter for the Council of Knout-Swingers, by supporting a movement made up of Russian grinders of the faces of the poor? Can any one imagine William Morris fishing for a political job, say as reporter of the British mine owners, by supporting a movement made up of British fleecers of the workers? Can any one imagine Wendell Phillips fishing for a political job, say as reporter for a Council of Roman Senators, by supporting a movement backed by greedy Roman land sharks? Can any one imagine Christ fishing for a job, say as a reporter of a Sanhedrin, by supporting a political intrigue set on foot by a set of would-be Pharisees? The thing is impossible. Whatever the

economic or social class, to which these, and many more such, great historic figures originally belonged, they tore away from the surroundings, they broke with the traditions, they fought the interests of the class that they recognized to be wrong, and uncompromisingly, self-sacrificingly, they planted themselves on the class interests of the class whose emancipation they sought.

The contrast presented between these great figures and the men who quote them to cover up their own crooked jumps illustrates the wisdom of Socialist tactics to trust none who does not squarely stand upon the class interests of the proletariat—a wisdom that can not be blurred except by the borrowed feathers with which such men as Reporter G. C. Clemens seek to deck themselves when they quote the Wendell Phillips, the Galus, etc., but a wisdom that shines forth all the brighter when these Jackdaws stand stripped of a halo that is a standing rebuke to them.

IT IS A CURIOUS FACT.

President E. Benjamin Andrews, of Brown University, has been forced to resign. This was the upshot of a conflict between him and his Board of Trustees. He believed in and advocated the free coinage of silver at the ratio of sixteen ounces of silver to one of gold, and they did not. That this conflict should have arisen is nothing odd; the oddness of the incident lies in the reasons given by the Trustees for the stand they took.

The Trustees maintain that the money question is dividing the people in two hostile camps; consequently, hold they, a College Professor should not strike an attitude to increase the irritation; the Trustees aver that some large donations had been as well as promised to the University, but had not been given because of President Andrews' attitude; consequently, say they, his attitude was injurious to the establishment. Nor are the Trustees alone in justifying President Andrews' expurgation with the above reason: all the gold bug capitalist papers that express themselves upon the subject, so far as we have any knowledge of, give the same grounds, make the same arguments, and adopt the same conclusions.

This is a curious fact.

Far be it from us to join the jackal howl of the silver mine barons' press, to the effect that the treatment of President Andrews is an "act of carism," an "infraction of free speech," an "abuse of power," or, as a Western silver bug paper puts it, "an act of tyranny that cries to heaven perpetrated upon American freedom."

That Mr. E. Benjamin Andrews should not be the presiding genius over an institution of learning, is an opinion we have long held; many a year ago we proved his unfitness for his post, being ignorant in the elements of political economy—a branch for which he had a predilection in a degree that was in direct ratio with his ignorance of the subject. Mr. Andrews' views on finance are absurd. It is not too much to demand of a College President that he be a man of scientific training, especially in the department in which he attempts to lecture. Did the Trustees of Brown University say: "This man is ignorant, unfit for his post; we must get rid of him?" Did they, in short, put their disapproval of his conduct upon his incapacity? Had they done so, they would have been right. But they did not. The stand they take amounts to this: "A College President may be fit or unfit as a superintendent of learning; he may hold to nonsense or to sense; that affects our judgment of him as little as whether his eyes be blue or grey. What does affect our judgment is whether he can attract donations. The university is not here to give out learning; it is here to rake in donations. Can a President cause donations to flow this way, then he is our man; can he not, then out he goes."

This is the curious fact that this E. Benjamin Andrews episode brings out clearly. A fact that constitutes the corner-stones on which most of our universities and colleges are reared, a fact that marks them ulcers among the many ulcers that capitalist—gold and silver bug—society breeds, and that festers on our body social.

Congress has adjourned. Let the parallel be drawn between this McKinley or Republican extra session, and the Cleveland or Democratic extra session of four years ago.

The Presidential campaign of the capitalist parties was conducted in '92 on the tariff. Democrats claimed that the existing high tariff would send the country to the damnation bow-wows, and the country needed right away a low tariff. The Democratic President was elected, he forthwith called a special session of Congress and sent a message, to what effect? To the effect that a new tariff law be enacted? No. To the effect that the finance laws be amended? Congress met and did as it was bid.

At the very next Presidential election, the capitalist parties divided on the money question. The syndicate candidate of the gold bugs beat the syndicate candidate of the silver bugs. Thereupon a special session of Congress was called, and McKinley sent a message, to what effect? To the effect that our finance laws be rectified? No. To the effect that the tariff laws be changed and raised! Congress met and did as it was bid.

This time this pickpocket trick of political chicanery be ended!

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

To judge by an article from the Rev. B. L. McElroy, of London, O., in the New York "Independent," a new luminary has risen over the horizon of "pure and simplem." It is a feature of "pure and simplem" to lie recklessly; among its most vicious lies are its claims of what the "union" has done for the workers. To judge by these claims, the workers must now be living in clover—what else can be the conclusion of such innumerable claims as one hears about "raises in wages?" Gompers, O'Connell, of the Machinists; McGuire, of the Carpenters; the McBrides, of the Miners; Prescott, of the Compositors, etc., etc., have traveled over the country announcing these claims; if one-quarter of them were true, the workmen in the unions of these worthies must now be summing in villas in the mountains or on the seashore, and having good bank accounts to start housekeeping in the winter. The Rev. B. L. McElroy now twitters the identical song. In his "Independent" article upon the miners' strike he says:

"As a class, coal miners do not need sympathy. For the most part they are vigorous, well paid, well fed and happy. At a certain mine in Illinois 75 per cent. of the men have their homes, and some keep cows, horses and carriages; another mining locality has several retired miners, who are quite well-to-do."

Were it not that, just now, all the above named "pure and simple" labor fakirs are howling for contributions for the distressed miners, and are justly retailing the pitiful condition of these workers, one would feel inclined to believe that the "A. F. of Hell," as its English horganizers justly call the thing, will forthwith engage the Rev. B. L. McElroy, of London, O., as an organizer to rope in unsuspecting workers into "pure and simple" unions, and there wheedle their pennies out of them with the cock-and-bull stories of "what the pure and simple union has done for the men." Surely the Rev. B. L. McElroy could give points in lying to the Gompers, O'Connell and other adepts.

We fear, though, that the Rev. B. L. McElroy will not have a "call" to that pulpit. He has chosen his time ill to sing the "claims" of pure and simplem. Indeed, we fear he has spoiled his chances. In our mind's ear we hear the labor fakirs swearing profanely at the Rev. B. L. McElroy's untimely outburst.

Unhappy "Debs" Party!" It is scraping the country clean of all its refuse, and gathering all such material into its fold. Even the Anarchists are flocking (by ones) to it. Herr Most's "Freiheit" has this to say:

"Anarchists ought not to place any hindrance in the way of the new movement; on the contrary, they ought to join it."

The San Francisco "New Charter" is doing good work in knocking down rainbow-chasers. In answer to the "Common Causes's" notion that "the blow that knocks out Hanna in the coming Ohio campaign will be felt from centre to circumference of plutocracy," the "New Charter" lets its hammer down thusly:

"Bosh! The blow that knocks out Hanna simply sets up John R. McLean, a Democratic boss, worth \$10,000,000, and plutocracy will laugh at the folly of the people who expect to come into their own by knocking down one plutocrat and setting up another."

The Cleveland, O., "Citizen," in commenting upon the political labor convention recently held in Denver, and at which the platform of the Socialist Labor party was adopted in full by a vote of 41 against 7, remarks well:

"As might have been expected, there were a few persons in the convention who were opposed to Socialism, and who made a weak attempt to stem the tide that has set in against capitalism, silver or otherwise. After the vote on platform, one woman and five men, among whom were two editors of alleged labor papers, withdrew their credentials and departed amidst derisive laughter. The bolters afterward held a little convention of their own and started a 'Direct Legislation League,' which will be 'noa-partisan.'"

"One of the editor men, Coates, of Pueblo, makes the astounding charge that the Socialist Labor party of Denver 'packed the convention in order that nothing but a radical Socialist platform could be adopted.' The truth of the matter is that the party named was represented by but one delegate in that convention, and, therefore, if the Socialists are in control of the Denver trade unions, both the unions and the Socialists deserve to be congratulated. Eastern people had no idea that the former were so powerful in Colorado."

Facetiously, unpatriotically and otherwise un-Americanly, the Johnston, R. I., "Beacon," refuses to join the cry methodically set up by the capitalist press that prosperity has actually arrived, and it is wrongheaded enough to say:

"The wave of McKinley prosperity arrived with such force that it caused a reaction. The business world was not prepared for it, the shock was too great, and therefore factories and mills are shutting down just to make sure we are not dreaming."

Because Socialism stands upon the scientific and obvious principle that, unless the material needs of man are satisfied, his moral and intellectual powers can not expand; because of this, the San Francisco, Cal., "Monitor," a religionist paper edited by some priest or parson, declares that, according to Socialism,

"man is an animal, and nothing but an animal."

The fact is not mentioned in any archeologic work, that we are acquainted with, nor have we run across any mention thereof in any of the several exegeses that we have looked into, but we feel quite sure that in the lineal precursor of this "Monitor," supported by Pharisee shekels, in the interest of Pharisee rule, the lineal predecessor of this "Monitor's" editor must have published the following comment on a certain memorable event in Palestine:

"Jesus of Nazareth held yesterday a mass meeting in the mountains; He claimed it was a prayer meeting; but, instead of going ahead and doing nothing but praying, he filled the stomachs of his hearers with fish and bread. This man's idea evidently is that man is an animal, and nothing but an animal. Of course, from the premises His conduct is logical; but we Pharisees maintain that man is something more than an animal; we pray only and we never eat. Upon this superior and highly moral principle is reared the Pharisee principle, against which the Jesus of Nazareth principle is in conflict, but ours is bound to prevail."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Valuable Experience.

To THE PEOPLE.—Beginning with August, the Socialists of Louisville will for the first time in this city inaugurate a municipal campaign by holding regular weekly open air meetings.

This campaign will result in a more active and numerous American organization. How important it is to reach our American fellow workers with an uncompromising class-conscious programme was plainly proved at our last meeting, where we had occasion to listen to the silly twaddle of a so-called Christian (?) Socialist, whatever that may be.

This individual, like the most of his ilk, did not attend our meeting in the hope to learn something. He came to inform us that WE were on the wrong track. He said that when HE preached Socialism (?) he never told his listeners that he was a Socialist, for then they would refuse to listen. Therefore he would tell them that he was a free silver Democrat, or a Populist, in order to attract their attention; having accomplished that, he would wade right in and preach Socialism (?) with a vengeance. With such an introduction the comrades present were anxious to hear what was the nature of this "American" or "Christian" Socialism. In due time they heard the following doctrine expounded:

"The Christian Socialists had arrived at the conclusion that only about ONE out of every HUNDRED persons could be converted to Socialism; these fortunate ONES should help themselves to hunt up the remaining fortunate ONES, who, like themselves, are of the ELECT; having found one another, they should straightway leave the wicked world, retire to some secluded spot (à la Debs) where they could have all things in common and live happy ever afterwards."

Upon being asked what would become of the remaining 99 out of every hundred who still remained in the toils of capitalism, this good Christian Socialist brutally answered that there was no help for them, that they should continue to grovel in the dirt and mire because they deserved no better, belonging not to the elect.

We need not say that this brainless charlatan was thoroughly laid out. It is no wonder that Socialism is regarded with suspicion wherever such fellows as this are at large and at work.

This incident shows that there is lots of work for the fool-killer in old Kentucky, and the sooner he makes a tour of the State the better it will be for the American proletariat.

The Central Labor Union has inaugurated an "anti-convict contract" campaign, but this does not prevent the labor fakirs from advertising convict-made goods, such as the Albin Co.'s furniture, in their official papers.

So also at the recent picnic given by our Sections here, for which we hired a "union" band, therefore our surprise was great when the first "union" musician who appeared on the grounds was not only a scab musician, but also a young capitalist cigar manufacturer, who employs about 70 girls, and is boycotted by the A. F. of L. Here was an object lesson. Pure and simplem doth erieft out for the union label, and then advertiseth scab goods and employeth scab labor. But "there are others."

The last number of the "Brewers' Journal" contains an editorial which amounts to a repudiation of the S. L. P. On what ground? Why, simply because the S. T. & L. A. refuses to die, and insists in making the life of the fakirs a burden to themselves. Thus this paper claims to oppose "pure and simplem" and to favor political action, and (Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!), it hangs on to the A. F. of L.

The "pure and simple" organization "par excellence," and, like all other crooks, fights the S. L. P., and takes up most of its space with vile denunciations, for some of which its former editor has been convicted a libeler, and is now a fugitive from justice.

The S. L. P., in convention assembled, fully endorsed the organization of the S. T. & L. A., and from that moment the latter ceases to be the work of one or several men. It is now the twin brother of the S. L. P., organized to revolutionize the stagnant American economic organizations, just as the S. L. P. will revolutionize the political organizations, and as such has not only a right to ask but to demand the support of every true and loyal Socialist.

As the matter now stands the Brewers' Union opposes as an adversary pure and simplem, but still affiliates with a pure and simple organization; again, the Brewers' Union claims to be Socialistic, but at the same time condemns the only trade union organization that is built strictly on Socialist lines. Where is the logic or tactics of such action? So much for the above subjects.

THE PRESS COMMITTEE.
(American Section).
Louisville, Ky., July 23.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Uncle Sam.—I saw you talking to a Socialist friend of mine, are you going to join the Socialist Labor party?

Brother Jonathan.—No; I was talking to him to induce him to leave the S. L. P.

U. S.—Why?

B. J.—Because the S. L. P. puts the cart before the horse. It urges people who have no economic power to vote and get the political power. Now, that is absurd. It should urge people to first get the economic power and then vote to get the political power.

U. S.—All of which is as heels-over-head a notion as to urge a man, who is being starved by another, to first get food and then knock his would-be murderer down.

B. J. (looks startled).—I don't know about that comparison. I do know, though, that I have been reading an article by an original thinker, who lays it down as a maxim that "political power naturally follows, it does not precede economic power," and from him I have learned that the S. L. P. is no good.

U. S. (breaks out in a roar of laughter).—Your "original" thinker is an "original mutton-head," without intellectual preparation or capacity to understand a scientific principle, he has run across such a principle, feels blown, and misapplies it with all the viciousness and insolence peculiar to such characters.

B. J.—Well, what's right and what is wrong in all this?

U. S.—Do you know that there are two sets of laws that rule matter—STATICS and DYNAMICS?

B. J.—I don't understand those words. U. S. pulls out a card, balances it on the tip of the index finger of his left hand; then he pulls out a silver dollar and balances that on top of the card; then he takes aim, and, with the fingers of his right hand, he flips the card off; the dollar remains poised on his left hand finger, the card flies off and hits Brother Jonathan on tip of the nose.

B. J. (rubbing his nose).—What are you after?

U. S.—Trying to prove to you what an original muttonhead your "original thinker" is.

B. J.—I don't see the connection.

U. S. (holding the dollar still poised on his finger, while the card lies a couple of yards away on the floor).—Listen. You have seen here illustrated a law of STATICS, and one of dynamics. By statics, a body at rest is obedient to the power of inertia, inclined to remain at rest, and this power of inertia may resist force. Accordingly, the force I imparted to the card under the dollar, was resisted by the dollar's power of inertia; the card flew off, but the dollar stayed balanced on my finger.

By dynamics, force applied to a body may produce motion, and this force may overcome the body's power of inertia, together with other forces acting upon it. Accordingly, the force I imparted to the card under the dollar, was not resisted by the dollar; the dollar stayed balanced on my finger, the card flew off and struck your nose.

B. J.—What of all that?

U. S.—This much, for one: The "original thinker," who has dabbled in dynamics only, and knows nothing about statics, would lay it down as certain that, if I impart force to a card, on which lies a silver dollar, motion would be imparted to both dollar and card, and both would go banging against your nose. (B. J. ducks his head).

On the other hand, the "original thinker," who has dabbled in statics only, and knows nothing about dynamics, would maintain that, if I impart force to a card, on which lies a silver dollar, their power of inertia would resist force and leave both unmoved. Do you begin to see?

B. J. (hesitatingly).—I can't quite say I do.

U. S.—"Political power naturally follows, it does not precede economic power" is a law of the STATICS of society, of society at rest. A social system once in existence, he who holds economic power also holds, or will inevitably hold, political power. In the statics of society, with society at rest, economic power is indeed the basis of political power.

But otherwise it is in the DYNAMICS of society. With society in motion, moving towards another social system, the political effort is the prerequisite for the acquisition of that economic power that, according to the STATICS of the new society, is to be the groundwork of a new social system, and the basis of future political power.

Under the feudal system, economic power lay in the ownership of the land, the political power of feudal society was grounded on and followed the economic power. That was the case with feudal society at rest, that was the statics of society. But take the instance of William of Normandy, the founder of actual feudalism in England. Did he hold the land of England before he set forth the requisite political effort to get it? No! It was a deed of fierce political force that he enacted at the battle of Senlac when his mace crushed in the head of Harold's standard-bearer, and himself seized the insignia of political supremacy over Harold's corpse. In the social dynamics of that event, political effort preceded the acquisition of the economic power from which future political power was to flow in statics of feudal society in England.

Take our own instance in America. In the capitalist social system, economic power lies in the ownership of capital, and the political power in our social system is grounded on and flows from this economic power. This is the case with capitalist society at rest, that is the statics of our social system, after it was

in existence. But the social dynamics implied in the Revolutionary War teaches us that economic power was not enjoyed by the revolutionists, this power was hampered and arrogated by the feudal Parliament of Great Britain; to gain this power, a force, strictly political, was put forth; revolutionary delegates were elected to the Continental Congress; and through this political effort in social dynamics, the economic power was fully seized upon, which now, in the social statics, political power is predicated.

B. J.—I now do see.

U. S.—So seeing, you will perceive that the giving of dynamic significance to the purely static principle that "political power follows naturally but does not precede economic power," is:

1st—Unhistoric and unscientific; and

2d—is equivalent to barring all chance of proletarian emancipation. It being an economic law of capital that the smaller capitalist can not stand up against the bigger one and is bound to lose his economic power, it follows that the proletariat, who already are stripped of all economic power, cannot hope to gain this under the capitalist system. Unable to gain that, they could never gain political power. If it were true absolutely that economic power must precede political power, the bosses like to cultivate this notion; the "pure and simplem" advance it in their stupid motto "Fight Capital with Capital." If the notion could only prevail Capital would remain safe on its usurped throne. But the notion will not prevail. The S. L. P. will hammer it into pulp. It will fire the proletariat to put forth that political effort that is requisite to overthrow the social system that deprives them of economic, and, consequently, of political power, and to set up that social system under which they will enjoy political through the assumption of economic power.

B. J.—I see a third conclusion.

U. S.—Which?

B. J.—That really my "original thinker" is but an "original mutton-head."

The Klondike should not be lost sight of. It is illustrating no end of truths. It is a gigantic object lesson of the insanity of our social system. Thousands of people are flocking thither, and many more would like to. What is their hurry? Are there hats, coats, boots and shoes, bread, housing—food for the body; or are there books, art, literature, science—food for the hungry mind to be found? No. Gold is the only thing to be got there, and that can neither be eaten nor worn, nor yet can it satisfy the mind. But such is the nature of the mechanism of our social system that gold becomes the pivot on which our social system runs, it is the gate through which to reach physical and mental well-being, it is the sine qua non of existence—with it, there is bread, there is moral elevation, there are parsons and priests to preach and give solace to those who need such solace, there are lecture rooms, colleges, theatres, for those who prefer that; without it, there is only darkness and want. The logic of capitalism elevates this one commodity, this one merchandise to the category of the all-essential, it turns it into a deity before which all bow, and to which all else sells itself!

Smash such social system!

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

Section Montreal, Canada.—The way you put the question either side may be right. Be more precise.

J. H. S., Greenfield, Tenn.—The share of labor in the national wealth is barely 4 per cent. of the whole; the share that the idle capitalist class pockets, or, to be more accurate, steals, is 71 per cent. The remaining 25 per cent. is held by the "great middle class," as by Bryan and other luncheads call that class of about 39 per cent. of our population; that 25 per cent. of our national wealth held by the middle class is partly the fruits of its own labor and partly the fruit of the labor of its employees, the workers whom it fleeces.

A. W., Boston, Mass.—The fellow does not deserve notice; he only makes himself more ridiculous and pillories himself as a scamp more clearly to the public every time he appears in print. Let him go. He'll only hang himself.

C. F., Denver, Colo.—Compare the S. L. P. platform with the platform of the Debs party and you will then see that the latter says as expressly as it can that it repudiates the tactics of the class struggle. It is mainly our platform, with all the passages on the class struggle stricken out.

"THE CROSS OF GAIN."

(Written for THE PEOPLE by BYRON EFFORD.)

"The world looks bright, and poetic inspiration and unbounded enthusiasm fill the hearth of the capitalist at the discovery that profits can be pumped out of living bodies. He runs wild with 'patriotism' when a new field is opened for exploitation. Every attempt to interfere with it is an insult to the national flag."—G. B. Leonard.

In the Cross of Gain I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of men;
While the "veil" of patriot's story
Gathers round all mortal ken.

When insulting foes o'ertake me;
Acts of treason interfere,
Never shall this Cross condemn me;
Lo! It beams with joy most dear.

Whilst in grooves of exploitation,
When the fields are sweet and green,
Then my soul in adoration
Mounts this cross of wondrous sheen.

Spires tall of "sacred property,"
Light and glow my martyr way;
Profits fair, no ghosts of poverty
Dim the lustre of my day.

"Abstinence," "thrift" and "saving"
By this cross are sanctified;
All my being swells to "craving,"
On this cross I'm crucified.

Streams of virtue, love and beauty
Flow enticing to this cross;
All my soul is wrapt in duty,
Fearful that my gain be dross.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

A CORRESPONDENCE.

The below correspondence, between Comrade O. M. Howard, of Medford, O. T., and Mr. Henri W. Young, Populistic State Senator of Kansas, and editor of the Independence, Kan., "Star and Kansas," speaks for itself.

It is published herein for two reasons: First, for the sake of the light itself thrown on many a point of interest; and second, because it starts many a point that we shall use as the basis for some future remarks. For both reasons it should be carefully read. Here it is:

Medford, O. T., June 29, 1897.

Senator Young:

I have just read an article copied from your paper that made me hot, and my first inclination was to sit down and give you "some hot stuff" that would make you want to swear as badly as I did when I finished reading your article, which was on the subject of "Fusion and the Nashville Convention." In the out-start you say: "Personally I am a Socialist." This is not what made me hot—it rather pleased me, but when you boldly declared that "the measures the Populist party advocates I consider only half-way reforms," and then went on to defend the party in its course in the last campaign; asserted that the Democrats aligned themselves in support of more Populist principles than the Populist party could have hoped to get enacted into laws in a generation; called all those not taking your view of the matter "demagogues," who want to use the Populist party to further their own selfish ambitions; extolled Bryan and condemned McKinley; asserted that the Democratic party had taken advanced grounds, and what we could do by standing by the progressive Democrats; practically recommended fusion and condemned the Nashvilleites, then I felt like saying "D—m such Socialists." What you evidently intended to say was: "I am a Socialist in principle, but haven't got the backbone and moral courage to be a Socialist in reality." Your article is convincing proof that you have no more right to call yourself a Socialist than an infidel has to call himself a Christian. You can no more be a Socialist and advocate your silly "reforms" than you can be a Christian and uphold infidelity. You have evidently not gone far enough to know that you can no more reach Socialism by "reforms" than you can go to heaven on a rope-ladder. Socialists are not "reformers," they are revolutionists. You can't have a change in the form of government without a revolution, and, consequently, cannot be a Socialist without being a revolutionist. You may say: "Oh, a person can be a Socialist without belonging to the Socialist Labor party." I say yes, in the same sense that a man can be a Christian without belonging to a church. You speak favorably of Bryan and his followers, as if they were "headed towards Socialism." There is where you show your ignorance and establish the fact that you know nothing of the aims, accomplishments, tactics, principles and the well-defined course of scientific Socialism.

Mr. Bryan has publicly said: "I am no Socialist," and in his New York speech virtually made a bid for plutocratic support by saying, in effect, "We do not propose to change existing forms; the accumulation of wealth will continue to be the main incentive to honest effort." Not only this, but he virtually insulted every true Socialist in his speeches. Yet such so-called "Socialist" as yourself have the gall to stand up and say that Bryan was more entitled to Socialist votes than McKinley!

I make no defense of the cause of the Nashvilleites, but I am quite sure many of them are at heart better Socialists than you are. You evidently expect to profit by "the union of reform forces," which gave us a victory last fall. Your so-called victory is a delusion and a fraud, and when you become a class-conscious Socialist you will clearly see it. The Nashvilleites recognize the fact that the strength of the Omaha platform was its Socialistic features, and declaring against office holders having any hand in making nominations or conducting conventions. They also know no reform party can live that will fuse with either of the old parties even for "concession," attributed to the Chicago-Bryan convention. In so far, consequently, they are tactically nearer Socialism than you are, for the Socialists never entertain a fusion proposition of any kind. You are right in saying Populist principles are only half-way reforms—that is, they only demand about half what is really wanted by the dissatisfied people who call themselves "reformers," but when you express yourself as believing that the Populist party was headed in the right direction you are as badly mistaken as when believing a man can be a Socialist and still advocate "reforms," fusion, free silver and other relics of barbarism. No Socialist would be guilty of making such breaks as you have, and before you again announce yourself a Socialist I advise you to read Karl Marx, William Morris, "Merrie England," De Leon's address on "Revolution and Reform," the New York PEOPLE, and many other documents that you can obtain of the Socialist Labor Party News Co., 151 Williams street, New York. I have no doubt that you have read some of them, especially THE PEOPLE, but you have evidently overlooked the very things you should have read. You can also procure a red card of the Executive Committee at the same address, if you can get a Socialist to recommend you, and will promise to stand by Socialism and eschew all nonsense and rainbow chasing. Then when you assert that you are a Socialist you can show your colors and people will believe you. Until then I object to you disgracing Socialism by your writings such as I have referred to, and deceiving people by claiming to be a Socialist.

This may be too hot for you now, but the day is not far distant when you will admit that it should have been several degrees hotter, and if I succeeded in setting you to thinking and getting yourself on the right track I will consider I have done my duty. Respectfully,

O. M. HOWARD.

Independence, Kan., June 30, 1897.

O. M. Howard, Medford, O. T.:

Dear Sir:—I am just in receipt of yours of the 29th, and I thank you for your very candid criticism of my article because I think you are entirely honest and well meaning.

I hope I did not need it to "set me to thinking," as I have been doing a good deal of thinking along the lines of your letter, and perhaps may have some little right to my own opinion, even though it be unlike yours.

In my opinion, the most narrow, bigoted and unreasonable politicians in the country are the members of the Socialist Labor party. Of course I thank you for your invitation to become a real Socialist by getting a red tag (and wearing it, I presume) but I have never yet found it necessary to label myself to make it known where I stood, and when I stepped out of the Democratic party I determined to never wear a party collar again. I shall continue to believe in Socialist principles and do those things that I think will hasten the era of the Co-operative Commonwealth, no matter how much it irritates men like you for me to do so. I am not aware that men who believe as you do have any copyright on the word; and I think that Fabian Socialists have just as good a right to the name as the impracticables and bigots of the Socialist Labor party.

You use the same expressions and are just as narrow in your criticisms as Mr. De Leon, whom you seem to admire so much. Socialism isn't a matter of classes, and when a man talks of being a "class-conscious" Socialist it seems to me that he is talking rot.

Of course you have a right to think that neither the Populists nor the Bryan Democrats are "headed in the right direction," but the trusts and syndicates, the millionaires and the oppressors of the people fought Bryan in a way to indicate he was not "headed" to suit them.

You say that Socialism is revolution. I think it is evolution, and that we can only get towards it step by step. If a bloody revolution comes as a result of the present Anarchistic system of capitalism, I do not expect conditions to be better, but the rather worse for the people. To educate a nation up to the principles of Socialism is not a work that can be done in a day or a generation, and until human nature is a good deal improved the ideals of Socialism are in the dim future.

Yours truly, H. W. YOUNG.

P. S.—I have got beyond the point where I "want to swear" when criticized.

Medford, O. T., July 16, 1897.

Dear Senator:—Yours of June 30, in reply to mine of the 29th, duly received. As to your right to "your own opinion" I will not dispute, but whenever, however or wherever "your own opinion" is shown to be erroneous and false, I claim that you must, of necessity, be dishonest to hang on to "your own opinion" after you know the truth. One great trouble with us, Senator, is that we have been taught lies from our youth up, and, being thus educated, we meet the truth every day of our lives and repudiate it, deny it, and spit in its face, and all this because we have been taught that we "have a right to our own opinion," no difference how erroneous or absurd. I admit that we are all alike in this respect, but every man whose heart and mind are right should accept the truth and abandon his own opinions as soon as he is convinced that his opinions are false.

I did not miss my guess when I asserted that you "knew nothing of the aims, accomplishments, tactics, principles and well-defined course of scientific Socialism." Your "opinion" that the "most narrow, bigoted and unreasonable politicians are members of the Socialist Labor party" is as false as the idea you have gotten into your head that you are a Socialist. Here you come face to face with the TRUTH, Senator, and while I do not ask you to take my word for it, I do beseech you to investigate until you can intelligently decide for yourself. I freely admit, Senator, that we have got to live and learn, that truth crushed to earth will rise again, and that time at last sets all things even; consequently, we should be just as careful in forming "opinions" as we are in avoiding "rough on rats" when we desire to take a dose of salts. I also freely admit that I had the good fortune or misfortune, whichever you choose to term it, of passing through the same stages of "evolution" from a half-baked "reformer" to a class-conscious Socialist some two years ago that you are in right now. I, too, while fascinated with the principles of Socialism, held the "opinion" that the New York Socialists were bigoted, tyrannical and unreasonable, and their plain but forcible manner in dealing with fakes, fanaticisms and foolishness did not meet my approval. I was a union printer and Knight of Labor, and, of course, thought them bigoted tyrants when they shot the truth into me as with a double-barreled repeating howitzer. It was the "hot stuff," and bitter to take, but, like the man testing an electric shocking battery, every time I came back I could stand a little more, and finally became so charged with the TRUTH that I passed the "shocking" point. I felt that I owed them a debt of gratitude, and could never pay it without buckling on the armor, getting a "red tag," and going out to help them save other poor mortals whose hearts are right, but who are blindly following the blind. Hence, I hope to be able to cause the scales to fall from your eyes as they caused them to fall from mine, and you ought to be thankful for this assistance, as it may be the means of getting you on the right track much sooner than if you had no personal advisers.

It is a mistake, Senator, to call these men politicians—that is, in the sense the term is usually understood and used. They detest and denounce the rotten politics of America and all other countries. They are not in the Socialist Labor party for office, personal gain or leadership. Here you come up face to face with the truth again, but you will probably stick to your early training and refuse to either believe it or investigate for your own enlightenment and satisfaction. Nevertheless, it is the truth, and when you so understand it you will at once abandon your "opinion" that they are "unreasonable bigots." They are only in politics because they recognize the fact that they must fight the devil with fire—that in order to establish Socialism they must use the political as well as the economic power. When we reach the Co-operative Commonwealth, all politicians, big, little, bigoted, unreasonable and all other kinds will be buried with the dead past.

Your reference to wearing a red tag is childish for a man of your abilities and learning. The Mason or Odd Fellow does not consider it a disgrace to carry a membership card from the lodge to which he belongs. Indeed, he con-

siders it an honor, just as I consider my Socialist Section card an honor. And right here, Senator, let me say I have been a consistent member of the Christian Church and of eight different secret orders, and am free to confess that none of them ever gave me the satisfaction that I enjoy in being a member in good standing of the Socialist Labor party.

And when I review the work of the militant Socialists, and learn that they have, by their correct party tactics and discipline, already polled over 7,000,000 votes in the old countries, and what they have accomplished in the onward march to the Co-operative Commonwealth in this and other countries, I feel that I would be a silly fool to designate them as bigots, impracticables and unreasonable.

You talk very independently about wearing party collars, and say you will continue to believe in Socialist principles and do more things to hasten the era of the Co-operative Commonwealth, but your present course does not bear you out in your claim. You are doing more to retard the progress of the Socialist movement than if you fought Socialism from the ranks of the common enemy. This is why I earnestly appeal to you to get right and know that you are helping the cause before you again lay claim to being a Socialist. If you will carefully read up and post yourself with facts, you will find that the Fabian Socialists have done little or nothing to advance the cause. They form a fine little literary society, and are great on theorizing and picturing the beauties of Socialism, but for practical, hard, effective work they are as worthless and useless as the class of "reformers" to which you belong.

Thirty or forty years of theorizing and dreaming is enough. What we want now is effective work. We are all agreed on the principles of Socialism. What we want now is to pursue the most sure, unerring and effective manner of reaching the goal. That I am satisfied, I am through and by means of the Socialist Labor party—an organization formed and perfected by men experienced in all the details, tactics and essentials of such a grand organization; a party organization of world-wide scope and sound principles; an organization that cannot be improved upon by all the Fabian fanatics, colony cranks, reform rattleheads, pure and simple unionists and dandy dreamers that live to-day or ever will live hereafter.

If you can show that they are unreasonable or impracticable, why don't you do it? They are the most patient and attentive listeners to sound reasoning and good, hard sense that inhabit the earth. Show wherein they are impracticable and unreasonable. They will thank you for it. They will accept the truth from whatever source it may come. Will you condescend to enlighten them?

You say Socialism is not a matter of classes. No. But if a man is so blind as to be unable to see that there ARE classes under the present capitalistic system, I do not wonder that he would follow after the tinkling sound of "free silver," reform and other fallacies. The Christians say "Repent, believe and be baptized." The Socialists say become class-conscious, fall in line, and go to work. You can do nothing to "hasten the era of the Co-operative Commonwealth" until you recognize the fact that classes exist to-day, and that the most useful, "the fittest to survive," the brainiest and best is the proletariat—the laboring class. From among them must come, as in the past, about all the philosophers, artisans, inventors and leaders. Very little such can be expected from the middle class and nothing from the capitalist class.

It is true the capitalists fought Mr. Bryan, but not because he was a Socialist or was headed towards Socialism, but because it was a fight between two capitalist factions, and they had already bought and paid for McKinley's election.

I did not say Socialism was revolution. I said Socialists were revolutionists. The development and onward march of civilization is evolution, but Socialism cannot come without a revolution. Not necessarily a "bloody" revolution, as you see it; but a peaceful war, as you imagine; but a peaceful revolution, a silent contest at the ballot box. If bloodshed follows this peaceful revolution the deposed capitalist class and their lackeys will be the instigators. And if such a contest comes, I have no fears but that "the fittest will survive."

I acknowledge that it takes time to educate people to the principles of Socialism, and that is why I admire the solid, sure and steady work of the militant Socialists. They are too well posted to be fooled by any "short cuts to Socialism," or to be satisfied with any palliatives or half-way measures.

Your idea that "human nature must be greatly improved" before Socialism can become a reality is one of the stock arguments of the capitalist class against Socialism, and yet you call yourself a Socialist! Human nature does not need to be changed or materially improved. It is simply the understanding that needs to be changed and the knowledge improved. Human nature is all right. The hearts of a majority of the people are all right. All they need is to be enlightened on the great

* Comrade Howard here concedes too much. Mr. Young mistakes the fact when he says "the trusts and syndicates, the millionaires and the oppressors of the people fought Bryan," etc. In English this means that the "trusts and syndicates and millionaires," etc. of the country were on one side, Bryan on the other. And were on one side, Bryan on the other. And this is the idea Mr. Young means to convey, but the idea is false. The silver mine barons have syndicated and trusted their silver mines; Stewart of Nevada, among them, is a multimillionaire, likewise Nevada, who is the agent for the silver mine British Baroness, Nevada Senator and silver mine baron William Sharon; and many others; Teller of Colorado is a noted "oppressor of the people" as testified by his enemies, and by his conduct in approving Cleveland's military raid upon Chicago against the railroad strikers; Senator Daniels of Virginia likewise commended this act of high-handed brigandage and oppression; Tillman of South Carolina caused the disfranchisement of the working class of his state; now all these "trust and syndicate" owners, and "millionaires" and "oppressors of the people" are not true bigots and tyrants, are they? They are very class of silver mine millionaires only. The other day were shooting down their miners. It is not true that the oppressors were all on one side. Bryan and his followers, the Socialists, Senator Young among them, on the other. The truth is that the oppressors, trusts and syndicates magnates, millionaires, and their office-seeking camp-followers, in short, the brigand class is divided into two: one set, the largest class, led by Bryan, the other, a smaller fraction, backed up by Bryan. The statement of this fact and the correction of the Bryanite Senator Young's version is, of course, very "narrow bigoted and unreasonable," but it is true all the same, and just as "narrow bigoted and unreasonable" as truth always has been and will continue to be. —Ed. THE PEOPLE.

truths of Socialism and their human nature will then improve as naturally as the trees grow or the flowers bloom.

Now, Senator, you may think me impertinent, but I assure you I have spent the time in writing this for what I consider all such talented writers as you on the right track, and doing effective instead of detrimental work. You may continue to wander in the wilderness of delusion and unsound reasoning, but you will find no way out on the other side. Why not step out into the high way of light and join the ranks of that grand army whose discipline is faultless, whose march is steady and onward, and whose victory is already in sight.

Dispel your prejudice against the leaders of the Socialist Labor party, and learn, as I have, that a more unselfish, honest, sincere and humanity-loving set of people never lived than those whom you designate as bigots—men who are elected to the respective positions they hold through the initiative and referendum, and cannot betray, sell out or compromise the party if they were so inclined. Then you will see them in a different light and recognize that their plain but forcible and cutting manner of prodding and correcting men of your way of reasoning is the correct and effective one.

Get yourself thoroughly class-conscious by the time the Socialist organizer gets around, and then join the Section and quit wasting your time and energy.

With best wishes,

O. M. HOWARD.

GEORGIA IN LINE.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 22.—Thirty-three years ago to-day the battle of Atlanta was fought for the abolition of chattel slavery, and to-day Atlanta is the scene of battle for the abolition of wage-slavery. The former was a battle of force and bullets, fought by men who afterward became slaves themselves—wage-slaves to the capitalists; while the latter is a battle of intelligence and ballots, being fought by men who are conscious of the present class struggle, and who realize that the workers must act together politically as well as industrially to overthrow capitalism and establish the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The Socialists of Atlanta have organized under the banner of the Socialist Labor party, and in this, the Gate City of the old aristocratic class-holding South, the death-knell of capitalism has been sounded. The Socialist ranks are being recruited principally from the trade unions, and New Trades Unionism or Socialism is gaining such a stronghold here that union men will hereafter be union men on election day as well as all the rest of the year.

On Friday evening, July 2, Comrade S. M. White, of Ohio, who recently came South, addressed a public mass meeting under the auspices of the Federation of Trades, at the Federation Hall, 62 Peachtree street, the audience being composed mostly of union men of various trades. He delivered a lengthy address, in which he discussed the labor movement from both its industrial and political standpoint, and after illustrating all the points of our destructive capitalist competitive system, he explained the meaning of Socialism, and what the Socialist Labor party is; he gave statistics as to the growth of the movement in the various countries; and showed that the wage-workers, on the industrial field alone, could accomplish little or nothing, but that solidified in a class-conscious body on both the political and economic fields, they could take possession of the public powers and establish the collective ownership of all means of production and distribution.

Among other things, Comrade White said: "The organization of trade and labor unions is one of the most effective means to check the evil outgrowths of the present system, but they must keep pace with the progress of the age and with the march of advanced ideas. Heretofore the trade unions have fought all the year on the industrial field to better the condition of the workers, and on election day they destroyed all they had gained by casting their ballots for the representatives of the very class that oppresses them all the year round. The workers, by voting together for a ticket representing their own class interests, can remove the cause of all industrial troubles, and can remodel the social machinery so that there will be no question of the unemployed, as confronts them now. Their only salvation lies in the use of their collective power at the ballot box as class-conscious wage-workers, and they should fill city councils, legislatures, the halls of Congress and all other offices—from top to bottom—with representatives of their own class, which they can do, being the absolute majority. Having shown you that the only permanent solution of the questions you are striving to solve lies in the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution, you should organize with the only political party which is pledged to establish the Co-operative Commonwealth—the Socialist Labor party."

At the conclusion of his address Comrade White invited questions, a number of which were asked and answered. The meeting resulted in the organization of a Section of the S. L. P., with thirteen members, all of whom thoroughly understand scientific Socialism, and among whom there are no novices. On Tuesday evening, July 6, another meeting was held for permanent organization and the election of officers, and it was decided to hold meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, at the Federation of Trades' Hall, 62 Peachtree street.

Since the Section was organized two new members have been admitted, making a total of fifteen, and a large quantity of literature has been distributed. The agitation meetings on Sunday afternoons are well attended by visitors and among the members are some good speakers.

The officers of Section Atlanta are as follows: Organizer, S. M. White, 439 East First street; recording secretary, H. A. Smith, 94 S. Boulevard; financial secretary, A. W. Russell, 312 Windsor street; treasurer, N. T. Ransom, 63 Factory street; literary agent, E. C. Kennedy, 53 Terry street.

The membership comprises six tailors, three cigarmakers, three printers, two weavers and two textile workers, all union men.

Efforts are now being made to form a State organization, and the outlook is bright.

ITEMS

That Indicate the Spread of Socialism in New England.

BOSTON, July 25.—The first annual reunion of the Karl Marx classes of Boston and Worcester was held at Pine Tree Banks Park, Malden, on the 18th, at 10 a. m. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Harriet E. Lothrop, of Boston. Secretary David Goldstein read the correspondence, amongst which was the following letter of congratulation from the Socialist Labor party of Dover, N. H.: "Members of the Karl Marx Classes:—May your literary propagandists produce Socialists a thousand-fold. Fraternally, Section Dover."

Then followed an address of welcome by the director, Martha Moore Avery, who said:

Welcome to the pine trees, these stately sentinels of oldest time have spread for us this softest carpet; have hung above our heads this canopy of lace-work, made with the needles that have adown the ages sewed the garments of the sprites that dwell within the mystery of their life food. These sturdy sires of all the forests bid us welcome hither. Ask us have we in our keeping science, to know; art, to do, the best of this great century? Have we courage and endurance to perform this task heroic? Give the proof then of your knowledge, who among your sons is greatest, giving freely to the people of the fire of great ambition, giving the profoundest knowledge of the laws of wealth creation, that the conscience and the right arm may build structure upon structure. Higher still and yet still higher shall the people mount the ladder, science to know, art to do, the will of human destiny. Let us hasten to make answer. Let us give back to these wardens proof of claim to march in vanguard of the hosts of marching people to the conquest of the forces that shall give to justice seeing; that shall give to labor freedom. A claim to greatness must be based upon service rendered to a whole people at an opportune time. The magnitude of service is proportioned to the degree in which the work is local or universal. The time of doing the work must be in harmony with the unconscious evolution in that particular line of effort.

Both requirements are fulfilled by Karl Marx. His work is applicable to all civilization. The time of the work is in exact accord with the historic evolution of the social organism with its attendant industrial development. The work itself a discovery of the creation of new values.

The development of industry during the last century has been so great as to revolutionize the form of wealth production, that is, labor power, with the simple tool, which was expended individually one hundred years ago, is now under modern industry expended as social labor power, while the tenure of wealth still retains the old form. Marx' patient and minute examination and analysis of industrial data from the earliest recorded time up to the present day, combined with his discovery of the point at which new values come into existence, show to us the organ's structure of industry and the laws which govern its development. Wealth production, lying as it does at the base of civilization, reduced to a science, enables nations to organize their industrial forces in conformity with the moral and spiritual aspirations of the race.

To open the way to industrial freedom is the work of Karl Marx, than whom no man of this century is greater. See him with stately mien point to the task before us. To the task that naught shall hinder, to the height that we must climb to, never faltering, never swerving from the pathway up and onward, till our red banner, firmly planted on the ramparts of the nation, fling the victory to the wide world of the workman over the oppressor.

This to gain; nothing to lose.

"Workmen of all countries unite!"

A review of Karl Marx' work was given by Charles E. Willey, L. D. Usher and W. J. Hoar, of Worcester, and Dr. Harriet E. Lothrop, Miss J. Moore, Miss J. E. Knowles, M. D. Fitzgerald, Edward Layole, A. New, A. L. Winneck, A. Dittler and David Goldstein, of Boston.

After partaking of refreshments and listening to vocal selections by some of the Comrades we started for home after resolving to do all in our power to organize a Karl Marx class in every town where a Section exists in New England.

D. G.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., July 18.—He who has eyes to see and ears to hear can not fail to see and hear the very general interest that Socialism is arousing here in New England. Daily, yes, almost hourly, the workers in shop and factory and street are talking and asking questions about Socialism. We have of late here in Springfield and vicinity held a number of open air meetings, with very gratifying results.

On the fourth (the glorious Fourth?)—last July 5th—James F. Carey spoke in Westfield, as also did Comrade Spellman. Comrade Carey spoke here in Springfield to a small but appreciative audience, and we had good notices in the local papers. Comrade Wilson Becker spoke in this place, Holyoke and Turners' Falls. Comrade Mrs. Martha Moore Avery spoke in Holyoke July 5th, from in front of the City Hall with good success, and Comrade Alexander Kersten spoke several times here and in Chicopee. We have a good and effective speaker in this young man, who, with a little more study, promises to be a power in the movement. There will be two meetings to-day, one before the Jewish Branch, where Comrade Wm. Trautman, will speak, and another in front of City Hall, to be addressed by Comrade Becker, so you see we keep the ball "a-rolling," and are the talk of the town. Just think, for the wicked Socialists to hold a meeting in the most prominent place in town, and that on Sunday, too! Why, such a thing has never yet happened in this goody-goody puritanical town. Of course all this does not happen without runnings up against Mayor, city marshal and police—but the Comrades know their rights, and have so far come off best.

During my perambulations (on the wheel) and per pedes, etc., I had the good luck to be at Haverhill, the largest shoe manufacturing town on the Merrimac in the north-eastern part of the State. I had opportunity, through the good offices of Comrade Carey, to see the wonderfully ingenious machines for making boots and shoes. The capacity of these machines is astounding, and each new one brings us nearer our goal—the Co-operative Commonwealth, for it does not seem possible that mankind should forever allow all these wonderful productions of the human brain, and therefore the inheritance of the whole human family, to remain in the hands of the few for the benefit of their own pockets, while the great mass of the people are starving. In Haverhill, like other centres of industry, the "season" is past, and out of the 9,000 workers, only about 1,500 are now employed; the rest are thrown on the street, and will be there for months to come, using up their meagre savings from their scant wages. And the end is not yet. Meanwhile it is gratifying to report that Section Haverhill is making good progress; they have a hall on the principal street, with a big sign, arm and hammer on a red field, with the legend "Headquarters of the Socialist Labor Party," prominently displayed. As one walks the street the red button is frequently seen, and there are many indications that the workers of that city are becoming conscious of the fact that Socialism is the only way out of this hell of wage-slavery.

CHAS. SCHULTZE.

How to Organize Sections.

All persons dissatisfied with present political and economic conditions, and who believe that the land, water works, gas works, telephone and telegraph lines, the commercial highways on land and sea, with all their appurtenances and equipments; all the mills, mines, factories, machinery, means of production and agencies of distribution, created by the efforts of the laboring class through all the centuries of the past, ought of right to be nationalized, and operated for the benefit of collective humanity, and who are convinced that the disinherited producing class can and must transform the capitalistic methods of production and distribution into a social and co-operative system, are hereby invited to identify themselves with the Socialist Labor Party, which alone goes to the root of our social and economic evils.

1. Any ten person may organize themselves into a section, provided they accept the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., and sever their connection, absolutely, with all other political parties.

2. OFFICERS TO ELECT.

- 1.—Organizer.
- 2.—Recording and corresponding secretary.
- 3.—Financial Secretary.
- 4.—Treasurer.
- 5.—Literary agent.
- 6.—Chairman, each meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1.—Reading of minutes.
- 2.—New members.
- 3.—Correspondence.
- 4.—Financial report.
- 5.—Report of organizer.
- 6.—Report of committees.
- 7.—Unfinished business.
- 8.—New business.

4. There shall be no initiation fee charged. Amount of monthly dues is fixed by each section. A monthly remittance of 10 cents per member shall be made to the National Executive Committee.

5. A full report of the first meeting, including a list of members, with enclosure of 10 cents per capita, is necessary to obtain a charter.

6. Per capita checks are furnished by the National Executive Committee at 10 cents each; such checks are pasted in monthly column on the membership card, and charged to members at such excess rate as will cover the amount of dues fixed by the section.

7. Each section shall hold a regular business meeting at least once a month, and semi-monthly meetings for public discussion or lectures on political or economic questions.

8. Quarterly reports of the numerical strength and financial standing of members, party progress and prospects, shall be promptly sent to the National Executive Committee.

9. Any person residing in a city or town where no section of the party exists may make direct application to the National Secretary, enclosing one month's dues, and will thus be enrolled as members at large.

For pamphlets, leaflets, platforms and other information, address the National Secretary, Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, New York City.

Socialist Tracts.

Price of the following Tracts and Party Platforms \$1.50 per thousand:

1. "What shall we do to be saved?" A Sermon to workingmen, by Henry Kuhn.
2. "Socialism," by William Watkins.
3. "Why American workingmen should be Socialists," by H. G. Wilshire.
4. "Social Effects of Machinery," by Frank W. Cotton.
5. "Socialism." Extracts culled from Robert Blatchford's "Merrie England."
6. "A Plain Statement of Facts," by Hugo Vogt.
7. "Middle Class Municipalization and the Municipal Programme of the Socialist Labor Party."
8. "The Platform of the Socialist Labor Party" (with comments in the following languages, four pages: English, German, French, Italian, Slavish and Jewish).
9. "The Firebrand." A humorous comedy in one act. (Adapted from the German.) Price 1 cent per copy, 1,000 copies \$5.00.
10. "Reform or Revolution," by Daniel DeLeon. 5 cents a copy.

New York Labor News Co., 64 East 4th street, New York, N. Y.

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at \$1.25 per 1,000 or \$1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO., 64 East 4th Street, New York.

A THING WORTH STRIVING FOR IS THE BEAUTIFUL DIAMOND POINT GOLD FOUNTAIN PEN

DIAMOND POINT

We will send it free to anyone sending us three yearly subscriptions at one dollar each. Will you take advantage of this unprecedented offer? Get a new yearly subscriber this, next and the following week, then send us \$3.00 and the pen is yours.

Address all letters and money orders to THE PEOPLE, 184 William street, New York City.

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kahn, 184 William Street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary M. S. Hayes, 115 Chambers St., Cleveland, O.

National Executive.

Meeting of July 27th, with Comrade Moore in the chair. The financial report for the week ending July 24th shows: Receipts, \$22.75; expenditures, \$39.63; deficit, \$16.88. Section New York having relinquished the management of the Labor Lyceum, the National Executive Committee takes that institution in charge, and appoints a committee to conduct the same, with L. A. Malkiel as treasurer of the house.

A communication is received from the National Board of Appeals, to the effect that the appeal of Edward Henckler, against his expulsion by Section New York, has been decided adversely. Section Chester, Pa., reports the expulsion of Gustav Baschdorf for conduct unbecoming a member.

Comrade Kelnard reports the reorganization of Section Salineville, O. He is very successful in gathering signatures for the nominating petition of the Ohio State Committee. Comrade Carless has organized a Section in Wilkesbarre, Pa., and reports good work in various towns. Comrade Hickey has organized Sections in Peckskill and Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Had a good meeting in the latter place, and is going to push the work in other places in Orange County, N. Y. Charters were granted for the aforesaid Sections, and in addition one to a Section of Lithuanians in Mineraville, Schuylkill County, Pa., upon application sent in by the Pennsylvania State Committee.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Secy.

New York.

To the Trade and Labor Organizations of Greater New York.

COMRADES:—All class-conscious wage-workers fully realize that there can be no improvement of their condition under capitalism, and that they must place all their hopes of early betterment and final emancipation in the steady growth and ultimate triumph of Socialism.

Again, they all look more especially to the Socialist movement in the metropolis for manifestations of strength and progress, which they may use as object lessons in their propaganda work throughout the country. For this is, of necessity, the chief center of proletarian agitation as well as the stronghold of concentrated capital. Motion here imparts motion everywhere; and a Socialist victory here would inevitably seal the doom of capitalism on the American continent.

By consolidating under one municipal administration all the area now comprised in Greater New York, the capitalist politicians have themselves immensely simplified the conditions of the irrepressible conflict between the wage-working class and its oppressors. They have done away with boundary lines, which, ever so purely artificial, were a serious impediment to the welding into one mass and one interest of a proletarian body numbering nearly three million souls. They have created a power which in the hands of the class that will possess itself of it will prove of hardly less magnitude, and in certain respects of far more importance, than that of the national government. And they have made it not only possible but necessary for the wage-working class of Greater New York, united under the banner of Socialism, to take possession of that power, for its only alternative is now, more plainly than it ever was before, abject slavery or complete emancipation.

Aware of its responsibility, and determined to do its duty, the Socialist Labor party is first in the field with a municipal programme and a full ticket. Its opportunities for educational agitation are only limited by the means at its command. It needs, therefore, the substantial support of all progressive labor organizations and of every individual sympathizer. It needs also the active co-operation of men able to speak at public meetings, chiefly held in the open air, and of all those who, by distributing literature in abundance, canvassing their districts, supplying information, and otherwise doing practical campaign work, may contribute, within their respective spheres, to the advancement of the common cause. The names and addresses of all such willing workers should immediately be sent to the Organizer of Section New York.

Subscription lists have been issued, and the party confidently expects that your organization, imbued as it is with the true spirit of the labor movement, and realizing the magnitude of the task before us, not only will make its own money contribution as large as possible, but will urge upon its members the necessity of circulating the said lists with commendable energy and making prompt returns to your secretary, through whom the sums thus collected will be transmitted to the Organizer of the City Executive Committee. All contributions will, as usual, be received in the party organs, namely, the "Volks-Zeitung," THE PEOPLE, the "Vorwärts" and the "Arbeiter-Zeitung."

Fraternally.

CITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of Section Greater New York, S. L. P.

L. ABELSON, Organizer.

64 E. 4th Street, Borough of Manhattan.

The following resolution was passed at the last meeting of the General Committee of Section Greater New York, S. L. P., held on Saturday, July 24, at 8 p. m., at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street.

RESOLVED. Members of Section Greater New York, S. L. P., who join or

support the Debs party, known as the Social Democracy, shall be proceeded against as persons joining or supporting another political party.

For the General Committee of Section Greater New York, S. L. P.

L. ABELSON, Organizer.

N. Y. City.—At the last session of the Greater New York General Committee, the delegates of the reorganized 4th, 8th and 12th Assembly Districts were admitted, and the action of the Executive Committee in reorganizing these bodies was ratified by 53 votes against 6. A resolution upon the Debs party was adopted and ordered printed conspicuously; the same precedes this report. Other matters of internal concern were disposed of, among these it was decided to relinquish to the N. E. C. the management of the Labor Lyceum. A large number of new members was admitted to the Section. The General Committee adjourned at 12:30 in the morning.

Calendar

of Organizations represented in Section Greater New York, S. L. P.

General Committee meetings every fourth Saturday evening in month at 64 East 4th Street.

Executive Committee meetings every Monday evening at 184 William Street, Borough of Manhattan.

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

Assembly Districts.

1st, 3d and 5th—Every 1st and 3d Monday in month at 455 West Broadway.

4th—Every Friday evening in month.

7th—Every 1st and 3d Monday evening in month at 137 7th Avenue.

9th—Every 2d and 4th Friday evening in month at 288 10th Avenue.

6th and 10th—Every 1st and 3d Thursday evening in month at Rau's Hall, 414 5th Street.

11th—Every 1st and 3d Saturday evening at 436 West 38th Street.

13th—Every 2d and 4th Friday evening at 342 West 42d Street.

14th—Every 2d and 4th Friday evening in month at 238 East 10th Street.

15th and 17th—Every 2d and 4th Tuesday evening in month at 437 West 53d Street.

16th—Every Tuesday evening in month at 98 Avenue C.

18th—Every 2d and 4th Tuesday evening in month at 246 1st Avenue.

19th—Every 2d and 4th Tuesday evening in month at 849 10th Avenue.

20th—Every 1st and 3d Friday evening in month at 231-233 East 33d Street.

21st and 23d—Every 1st and 3d Friday evening in month at 19 Manhattan Street.

24th—Every 2d and 4th Monday evening in month at 1059 2d Avenue.

26th—Every 1st and 3d Thursday evening in month at 313 East 71st Street.

28th—Every 2d and 4th Friday evening in month at 1497 Avenue A.

30th—Every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening in month at 206 East 86th Street.

31st—Every 1st and 3d Wednesday in month in Gessler's Hall, 1689 Park Avenue.

32d—Every Saturday evening at 304 E. 101st Street.

33d—Every 2d and 4th Friday evening in month at 2105 2d Avenue.

34th and 35th—Every Friday evening in Webster Hall, corner 140th Street and 3d Avenue.

Branch 1—Every 1st and 3d Friday evening in month at Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street.

Branch 3—Every 1st and 3d Sunday evening in month at Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street.

Bohemian Branch—Every 2d Monday evening in month at 313 East 71st Street.

Socialist Liedertafel—Every 2d Monday evening in month at Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street.

Jewish Working Women Society—Every Friday evening at 209 East Broadway.

French Branch—Every 2d and 4th Monday in the month at 470 6th Avenue.

Hungarian Branch—Every 1st Sunday evening in the month at Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street.

West Side Agitation Committee—Every 2d and 4th Monday evening in month at 242 West 42d Street.

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.

American Branch—Every Sunday evening at 515 Fulton Street.

Danish Branch—Every 2d and 4th Saturday in month at 205 Ewen Street.

6th Ward Branch—Every Friday evening at 208 Columbia Street.

8th Ward Branch—Every Wednesday evening at 126 33d Street.

16th Ward, Branch 1—Every Friday evening at 46 Ewen Street.

16th Ward, Branch 3—Every 1st Wednesday evening in month at 205 Ewen Street.

17th Ward Branch—Every 2d and 4th Saturday evening in month at Eckford Hall, corner of Eckford and Calmyer Streets.

19th Ward, Branch 2—Every 1st and 3d Friday evening in month at 83 Bartlett Street.

21st Ward, Branch 2—Every Monday evening at 45 Ellery Street.

21st Ward, Branch 3—Every 4th Wednesday evening in month at 874 Park Avenue.

22d Ward, Branch 1—Every Saturday evening in Turn Hall, corner of 16th Street and 5th Avenue.

25th Ward, Branch 1—Every 1st and 3d Saturday in month at 1766 Fulton Street.

26th Ward, Branch 1—Every 1st and 3d Tuesday evening in month at the corner of Liberty Avenue and Wyona Street.

26th Ward, Branch 2—Every Friday evening at 93 Tharford Avenue.

27th Ward, Branch 1—Every Monday evening at Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, 955 Willoughby Avenue.

28th Ward, Branch 1—Every 1st and 3d Wednesday evening in month at 257 Hamburg Avenue.

28th Ward, Branch 3—Every 1st and 3d Wednesday evening in month at 394 Hamburg Avenue.

RICHMOND COUNTY.

Branch Northfield—Every 1st and 3d Saturday evening in month at Wygant's Hall, Corner of Jewett Avenue, Port Richmond.

Branch Stapleton—Every 1st and 3d Saturday evening in month at Labor Lyceum, Stapleton.

New Hampshire.

MANCHESTER, July 25.—The first open air rally by the Socialist Labor party for 1897 occurred last evening at the corner of Market and Elm Streets, and was the most successful in every way that has ever been held in this city.

The crowd was so large that Market Street was blocked, and it was difficult for a single team to pass through. There was frequent applause. Forty copies of "Hard Times, The Cause and Cure" were sold.

Comrade Earle Payne acted as chairman and Comrade Henry Brunell as literary agent. Comrade Gordon addressed the people for one hour and forty-five minutes, and the best of it all was the crowd stayed.

The news that the great Amoskeag corporation, the largest cotton manufacturing company in the world, was to close down, throwing out of work 8,000 operatives, coupled with the news that the advance agent of prosperity had signed the tariff bill, no doubt added to the interest.

These meetings will be continued, and no doubt much good will result.

F. S. R. GORDON.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

(A Correction).

The block system of dues in force with August 1, 1897, in the S. T. & L. A. meant that organizations with 100 members pay \$1 dues per month, and organizations with less than 100 pay 50c. per month, and not as published, that 50c. are to be paid for every additional 100 members over 100.

ERNEST BOHM, Secretary.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

At the meeting of the General Executive Board last Wednesday W. L. Brower was chairman.

A committee of the Bohemian Butchers Union was granted the floor and requested that the resolution adopted by the S. T. & L. A. convention be enforced.

The resolution urged all D. A.'s and L. A.'s to deal only in such shops displaying the card of this union. The boycott against bosses Schumacher and Levy & Beck is to be strictly enforced.

The committee gave a detailed history of the strike in both shops, and how these bosses had succeeded with the aid of the Central Labor Union to organize the seven scabs employed by them into a union.

This crowd, as is customary, received a charter from the American Federation of Labor, which charter belonged to a defunct bona fide butchers' union of ten years ago. It was resolved to issue an appeal to all D. A.'s and L. A.'s to enforce this boycott.

The "Hlas Lidu" is requested to publish the matter.

The committee having charge of the label matter presented a draft. The secretary received instructions relative thereto.

It was resolved to issue the proceedings of the convention at 5c. a copy.

Relative to the Children Jacket Makers, No. 518, they were notified to pay up their arrearage to D. A. No. 49 by August 4, 1897, or else the charter will be revoked.

The committee which is to settle the grievance among the Musical Alliances will meet Wednesday, July 28, 1897, at 8 p. m., 64 East 4th Street. Musical Pro. Alliance No. 1028, Carl Salm Club, Prog. Musical Union, Brooklyn, and Am. Prot. Musical Union must be represented.

The charter application from the Mine Workers' Union of Buena Vista, Pa., with 70 signatures, created a pleasant surprise.

D. A.'s Nos. 1 and 2 notified the Board that they had elected three delegates each to the Local Joint Executive Board.

The delegates to the late convention are hereby notified that the photographs are ready and can be ordered through the General Secretary at 50c. per copy.

The next meeting of the General Executive Board will be held Wednesday, August 4, 1897, at 64 East 4th Street, at 8 p. m., and all members must attend punctually.

D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Delegate, A. Rheinfield, of the Walters' Alliance Liberty, was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the New York Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.), and delegate E. Leske, of the Ind. Bakers' Union, Br. 1, was vice-chairman.

The Arbitration Committee reported that proprietor Fuchs, of the Café Cosmopolitan promised to appear at the meeting of the said union this Thursday and explain his position. Action on the case was deferred until this Sunday.

The Picnic Committee reported that it was resolved to order 500 diamond cards in English and 500 in the Bohemian language. An advertisement shall be published in the "Hlas Lidu" once a week and continually for one week prior to the picnic. Two prizes are to be put up in competition, one a banner for the union which is numerically best represented by 6 p. m. at the picnic ground, and one for the union disposing and paying for the most tickets. No union shall receive both prizes. An invitation shall be extended to the following societies: Socialist Liedertafel, Urania, Quartette Club, Yorkville Maeserchor, Turn Society Sokol, Soc. Dem. Turn Society, and Turn Society Vorwaerts.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 1, reported that boss Schunk had signed a contract by which he agrees to employ only its members. Weissmann's henchmen in Ind. Bakers, No. 92, thereupon placed a boycott on this shop, without results.

This branch is organizing the Bohemian bakers. A boss at 240 East 3d Street was given 100,000 labels by former Branch 3, at present a sick benefit mutual admiration society. Branch 1 admitted five new members.

Walters' Alliance Liberty will meet this Thursday in special meeting at 282 East Houston Street. The matter of Café Cosmopolitan and of former member Haas will be settled.

The candidates of the S. L. P. for public office were thereupon endorsed, and all affiliated unions were requested to do likewise.

Int. Pianomakers' Union will hold a quarterly general meeting this Saturday at 342 West 42d Street, at which the report of the S. T. & L. A. convention will be heard.

Section Greater New York, S. L. P., reported that the findings of the City Executive Council, in suspending certain Assembly Districts and reorganizing the same was endorsed.

The label of the Bohemian Typographical Union was endorsed pending the issuing of the general S. T. & L. A. label.

Empire City Lodge Machinists reported that President J. O'Connell, of the Int. Ass. Machinists, had kept his jawbones busy inflating some deluded penny-aliners of the capitalistic press with the monstrous information that "He" would order on strike "His" machinists in support of the Mine Workers.

The fact still remained indisputable that the Int. Ass. of Machinists would not dare to order a sympathetic strike for any one. Such wily publications simply tended to inspire the poor mine workers with false hopes, and they would awake to see all this bluster to have been a delusion and a snare.

Mr. O'Connell, the pompous Sammy of the Chicago Conference fame, nor any of the vacillating stars on the "pure and simple" heavens could aid the mine workers in their present affliction. The strike, being in "pure and simple" hands, would go the way of its predecessors, and eventually teach the workers to embrace the golden truths evolved from "New Trades Unionism."

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to July 26th, 1897.

\$4,535.

The following amounts have been paid down to July 25th, incl.:

Previously acknowledged: \$135.90
Max Thurmansen, Neenah, Wis.; Magnus Svensson, City, 416; W. J. M. City, 2; J. J. McLean, Eureka, Cal.; E. J. Ballard, Eureka, Cal.; 20th Assembly District, S. L. P., City, 275; Miss Marie Brückmann, 110; A. B. Colby, Manchester, N. H.; 110; John Kinneally, City, 2.

Total \$1437.90

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

—OF THE—

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-affirms the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of his right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming when, in the natural cause of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crisis on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Common wealth for the present state of planless production, individual war and social disorder; a common wealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation).

13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

15. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.

17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

18. Municipal self-government.

19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.</